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HW

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

### IN THE DESCRIPTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

If desired, one component of the present invention may be connected to another component by any desired means. For instance, one component of the present invention may simply be abutted against another component. In addition, Figures 2 through 4 show some other examples to facilitate connecting one component of the present invention to another. In Figure 2, the component 20 is comprised of synthetic wood layer 22 and a foamed polymer layer 24. In this example, one side edge of the synthetic wood layer 22 defines a groove 26 that is adapted to receive a tongue of an adjacent component, and another side of the synthetic wood layer 22 defines a tongue 28 that is adapted to fit in a groove of another adjacent component. On the other hand, Figure 3 illustrates a component 30 having a synthetic wood layer 32 and a foamed polymer layer 34. In this embodiment, the side edge 36 of the synthetic wood layer 32 extends beyond the side edge 38 of the foamed polymer layer 34, and side edge [[42]]37 of the foamed polymer layer 34 extends beyond the side edge [[40]]35 of the synthetic wood layer 32. As a result, component 30 may overlap adjacent components to provide an interconnecting fit. Lastly, the component 40 of Figure 4 is comprised of synthetic wood layer 42 and a foamed polymer layer 44. As opposed to Figure 2, one side edge of the foamed polymer layer 44 defines a groove 46 that is adapted to

receive a tongue of an adjacent component, and another side of the foamed polymer layer **44** defines a tongue **48** that is adapted to fit in a groove of another adjacent component.